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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SEDGEFIELD.

ANNUAL
REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1949.

FERRYHILL:
A. Blamire & Son, Electric Printing Works.
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SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SEDGEFIELD,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the 72nd Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary work of your district for the year ending December 31st, 1949.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

The live birth rate of 17.12 per 1,000 of the estimated population shows a decline on that for 1948 which was 17.8.

The rate for England and Wales shows a similar decline from 17.9 in 1948 to 16.7 in 1949.

General Death Rate.

This rate shows a slight increase from 10.25 in 1948 to 10.68 in 1949. It is slightly lower than the rate for the country generally as has been the case since 1931.

The rate for England and Wales is 11.7.

Heart Diseases continued to head the list of causes of death. They accounted for 113 or 30.9% of the deaths. Intra Cranial Vascular lesions came second, and accounted for 48 or 13.1% of the deaths, and Cancer as third accounted for 47 or 12.8% of the deaths.

Infantile Mortality.

It is to be regretted that I have to report that the Infantile Mortality rate has not followed the trend of the country as a whole, but has shown an increase.

The rate for England and Wales which was 34 in 1948, was 32 in 1949. The rate for your district increased from 47.69 in 1948 to 63.04 in 1949.

It will be seen from the table on page 5 that 58.3% of the deaths were neo-natal, and 57.14% of the neo-natal deaths (or one third of the total deaths) were due to prematurity.

Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age.

There were no deaths under this heading.

Maternal Mortality.

There was one death from abortion with sepsis giving a rate of 1.67. The rate for the previous year was nil.

Tuberculosis.

Although the notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis increased from 41 in 1948 to 49 in 1949, the number of deaths decreased from 13 in 1948 to 9 in 1949.

Both notifications and deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis increased as compared with the previous year. There were

10 notifications in 1948, and 11 in 1949. Deaths increased from 3 in 1948, to 5 in 1949. The total death rate for tuberculosis was slightly lower than that for England and Wales, 0·41 as against 0·45.

Infectious Disease.

The notifications of these diseases are set out in a separate table in the report. The drop in notifications is largely accounted for by the fall in the incidence of measles, and to a lesser extent by a fall in the incidence of Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Pneumonia.

Poliomyelitis.

One case of poliomyelitis occurred in the district during the year.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid.

No case of paratyphoid or typhoid occurred in the district during the year.

Food Poisoning.

One case was notified during the year, which was found on investigation to be an allergic reaction on the part of the individual.

Dysentery.

One case was notified as against 14 in the previous year. The person concerned was a temporary resident of the area, and no further cases occurred.

Scabies.

The notifications of Scabies continued to fall. Fifteen cases were notified in 1949 as against 28 in 1948.

Housing.

The need for many more new houses is still urgent in order to alleviate overcrowding, and families, sometimes several in number, 'living in' and also to re-house the occupants of condemned and almost derelict houses.

Industries and Employment.

The chief industries in your area are coal-mining, and bye-products (coke-ovens), agriculture, and quarrying. There are many subsidiary occupations—Medical services, road transport, catering, food and drink, clothing, and engineering.

Employment could be said to be at quite a high level. Many of the unemployed are in the higher age-groups or suffering from some disability.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The details shown under this heading have been supplied by the Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Clough and Mr. Curry.

I wish to express to the Council my appreciation of their support and I should also like to take this opportunity of thanking the Clerk to the Council, the Sanitary Inspectors, members of the Health Department, and other Council Officials for their valuable help.

I have the honour to be,

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. W. RODGERS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area 39,212 acres.

Population 34,284.

No. of inhabited houses 9,275 + 28 ex-army huts occupied by squatters.

Rateable Value £122,622.

Sum represented by a penny rate £457 10 9d.

Vital Statistics.

Births—Live births.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	307	262	569
Illegitimate	9	9	18
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	316	271	587

Live Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 17.12.

Still births.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	4	6	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/>	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/>
	4	6	10

Still births per 1,000 of the resident population 0.29.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total births (live and still)	320	277	597

Total birth rate per 1,000 of the resident population 17.41.

Still birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) 16.75.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under 1 year :	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	22	13	35
Illegitimate	1	1	2
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Infantile Mortality Rate.

23 14 37

Death rate of all infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live births: 63.04.

Death rate of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 Legitimate Live births: 61.52.

Death rate of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births 111.1.

Analysis of Causes of death in two age-groups, under one month (Neo-natal deaths), and one month to one year.

Neo-natal Deaths. Age group one month to one year.

Causes :

Prematurity	12	Pneumonia	5	(2 lobar & 3
Birth injuries	1			Broncho-Pneumonia).
Asphyxia at birth	4	Tuberculosis	3	(2 tubercular
Congenital heart diseases	2			meningitis & 1 miliary
Other forms of				tuberculosis).
malformation	1	Bronchitis	3	
Infantile disease	1	Convulsions	1	
		Influenza	1	
		Congenital		
		Paralysis	1	
		Malformation	1	

Total 21 Total 15

Cause unknown - 1

It will be noticed that 21, or 58.3% of the 36 deaths were neo-natal.

57.14% of the neo-natal deaths were due to prematurity.

Deaths.	Total.	Male.	Female.
	366	180	186

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population : 10.68

Maternal Deaths.

Deaths from Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	1
Other maternal causes	nil.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	180	186
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	4
Other Tubercular Diseases	3	2
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Influenza	3	3
Measles	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, Polioencephalitis	—	—
Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—
Cancer of Buccal cavity and oesophagus-M uterus-F	2	3
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	11	3
Cancer of breast	—	4
Cancer of all other sites	13	11
Diabetes	—	3
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	26	22
Heart Disease	43	70
Other diseases of Circulatory System	4	10
Bronchitis	10	10
Other respiratory Diseases	4	—
Pneumonia	5	9
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	1	—
Diarrhoea under two years...	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—
Other digestive diseases	2	2
Nephritis	5	3
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	1
Other maternal causes	—	—
Premature birth	8	4
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	7	3
Suicide	1	—
Road traffic accidents	1	—
Other violent causes	7	8
All other causes	19	11

Age Groups	Und.	1	1-5	6-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	Over 90
Deaths	...	37	1	2	6	7	13	19	49	71	110	48	3

Cancer.

The following table gives deaths from cancer in age groups and localisation.

Localisation.	Ages in years.					Totals.	
	1-25	26-45	46-65	66-75	76 & over		
Stomach	—	4	6	2	12
Breast	—	2	—	—	4
Prostate	—	—	2	1	3
Uterus	—	2	1	—	3
Liver	—	2	—	1	3
Lungs	—	1	3	1	5
Bowels	—	2	2	1	5
Other sites	—	7	5	—	12
		—	2	20	19	6	47

Table of Birth and Death rates for the past 20 years (1930-1949) as compared with Rates for England and Wales.

Year.	General Death Rate.		Infantile Mortality Rate.		Total Birth Rate.	
	Sedgefield	England and Wales	Sedgefield	England and Wales	Sedgefield	England and Wales
1930	11.4	11.4	69.4	60	19.6	16.99
1931	10.9	12.3	86.1	66	17.8	16.47
1932	11.1	12.0	71.5	65	17.8	15.96
1933	11.3	12.3	86.5	64	16.8	15.02
1934	11.3	11.8	88.8	59	15.5	15.42
1935	11.7	12.1	70	57	18.55	15.32
1936	10.9	12.1	77	59	18.4	15.41
1937	12.2	12.4	74	58	18.15	15.50
1938	11.41	11.6	73	53	17.84	15.70
1939	11.33	12.1	65	50	17.38	15.59
1940	13.83	14.3	50.81	55	17.74	15.15
1941	10.78	12.9	73	59	17.80	15.70
1942	9.71	11.6	71.80	49	19.44	16.34
1943	10.53	12.1	65.30	49	18.45	17.01
1944	10.73	11.6	48.74	46	21.61	18.11
1945	9.96	11.4	58.29	46	20.56	16.56
1946	10.65	11.5	45.80	43	20.59	19.63
1947	10.33	12.00	37.70	41	20.54	21.00
1948	10.25	10.8	47.69	34	18.20	18.32
1949	10.68	11.7	63.04	32	17.41	17.09

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality and Maternal
Death Rates in the year 1949,

					England and Wales	Sedgefield Rural District
(Rates per 1,000 population)						
Births :—						
Live	...	...	...	...	16.7	17.12
Still	...	...	...	...	0.39	0.29
(Rates per 1,000 Live Births)						
Deaths :—						
All causes	...	...	...	...	11.7	10.68
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...				0.00	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	0.45	0.41
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0.51	0.41
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0.01	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0.00	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	0.15	0.17
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis					0.01	—
(Rates per 1,000 Total Births) (i.e. Live and Still)						
Deaths under one year of age	...	...			32	63.04
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age	...	...			3.0	—
Abortion with Sepsis	...	...			0.11	1.675
Abortion without Sepsis	...	...			0.05	—
Puerperal Infections	...	...			0.11	—
Other maternal causes	...	...			0.71	—

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.

Table of cases as notified in the whole district set out in age groups. Civilians only.

	At all ages	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total deaths	Hospital	Home				
Scarlet Fever	124	—	1	6	12	9	50	33	7	3	—	—				
Diphtheria	15	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	2	—	—	—				
Erysipelas	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	9	2				
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Pneumonia (Prim. and Influz.)	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Measles	25	11	15	28	30	30	109	1	—	—	—	225				
Whooping Cough	36	1	2	10	3	8	12	—	—	—	—	36				
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
TOTALS	439	15	19	44	45	49	176	38	14	18	8	10	3	—	143	296

There were 439 cases notified as against 737 the previous year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.

Table of cases after correction in the whole district set out in age groups.

Disease.	At all ages		Under 1		1-2		2-3		3-4		4-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-35		35-45		45-65		65 and over	

Scarlet Fever	164	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia
Paratyphoid	225	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough
Food Poisoning
TOTALS	...	427	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
					44																					3

Diphtheria. During 1949 15 cases of Diphtheria were notified as against 11 in 1948. Of these 15 cases 8 were positive and 7 negative. No deaths occurred.

Paratyphoid. No case of Paratyphoid occurred in the district.

Smallpox. No case of smallpox occurred in the district.

SCARLET FEVER.
124 Positive Cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in 1949 as against 141 in 1948.

Location	All ages	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35 and over	Home	Hos- pi- al	
Chilton B'ld. & Windlestone	38	—	1	—	3	1	2	11	9	1	1	1	3	38
Ferryhill	30	—	—	1	4	2	—	4	6	1	1	—	—	27
Ferryhill Station	... ... ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
East Howle	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fishburn	...	... ... ...	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TrimdonS	...	... ... ...	6	—	—	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	6
Sedgefield	...	... ... ...	9	—	—	—	1	2	3	3	—	—	—	5
Cornforth	...	... ... ...	17	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	9	1	—	16
Bishop Middleham	...	...	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	4
Rushyford	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Copeland School	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS	...	124	—	—	1	6	12	9	50	33	7	3	10	114

Laboratory Work.

The following table indicates the use made of this during the year :—

Bacteriological Examination for :

	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tubercle Bacillus ...	23	75	98
Diphtheria Bacillus	5	27	32
Haemolytic Streptococci	8	11	19
Coliform Bacillus ...	1	—	1
Dysentery Enteric & Paratyphosum	—	3	3
Meningococcus ...	—	1	1
	37	117	154

Notification of Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis (New cases and Mortality during 1949).

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
1—5	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
6—10	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
11—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
16—20	3	4	—	—	—	2	—	1
21—25	—	7	—	1	—	1	—	—
26—35	4	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
36—45	9	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
46—55	3	2	—	—	2	—	1	—
56—65	5	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
66 and over	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
	26	23	5	6	5	4	3	2
	49		11		9		5	
	60				14			

Of the above new cases 16 respiratory cases were notified from the Winterton Hospital.

The deaths do not include those in the Winterton Hospital which are transferable to localities outside this district.

Tuberculosis.

The total number of new cases of the pulmonary form of the disease notified from the area, excluding the Mental Hospital was 33. This was an increase of 7 from the figure for 1948 which was 26.

New notifications of the non-pulmonary form of the disease notified from the area numbered 11, an increase of 1 from the number for 1948.

Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis showed a decrease from 13 in 1948, to 9 in 1949. In the non-pulmonary form of the disease the number increased from 3 in 1948 to 5 in 1949.

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate	(Respiratory) 1948	0.380
Do.	(Respiratory) 1949	0.263
Do.	(Non-respiratory) 1948	0.087
Do.	(Non-respiratory) 1949	0.146

See Comparative table re Tuberculosis Statistics for past 10 years on page 14.

No. of cases on register at 31st December, 1949.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total cases
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
137	151	288	101	95	196	484

Scabies.

Scabies became a Notifiable Disease in the Rural District on June 17th, 1946.

Number of cases of Scabies notified during 1949	15
Number of cases treated at home during 1949	1

The remaining fourteen cases were treated at the Cleansing Centre, by arrangement with the Spennymoor Urban District Council.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The following table shows the cases of Infectious Diseases admitted to hospitals during 1949.

Disease	Cases notified in the district and admitted to Isolation Hospitals
Scarlet Fever	114
Whooping Cough	—
Diphtheria	15
Measles	—
Acute Pneumonia	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—
Dysentery	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—
Smallpox	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—
Enteric and Typhoid Fever	—
Food Poisoning	—
Erysipelas	—
Chickenpox	—
Malaria	—

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS FOR RECENT YEARS.

Year.	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.						NO. ON REGISTER AT END OF YEAR.					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1940	33	8	41	10	5	15	8	7	15	2	4	6	64	62	126	77	73	150
1941	17	34	51	14	9	23	12	6	18	4	—	4	67	80	147	87	78	165
1942	22	30	52	10	14	24	4	5	9	3	2	5	81	94	175	88	89	177
1943	15	27	42	7	8	15	4	4	8	5	3	8	78	106	184	94	96	190
1944	17	19	36	5	8	13	2	7	9	4	5	9	83	102	185	83	91	174
1945	24	21	45	15	10	25	5	3	8	—	3	3	101	116	217	98	100	193
1946	20	16	36	5	5	10	8	7	15	6	1	7	108	117	225	90	90	180
1947	14	18	32	7	4	11	6	8	14	1	—	1	116	125	241	96	89	185
1948	16	25	41	6	4	10	4	9	13	1	2	3	123	136	259	97	90	187
1949	26	23	49	5	6	11	5	4	9	3	2	5	137	151	288	101	95	196

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the area during 1949.

<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>5 to 14.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Total number of children who were given a re-inforcing injection was nil.</i>
198	6	204	

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47.

No action was deemed necessary under this Section.

Health Services administered in your area by the Local Health Authority.

Residential Hostel Accommodation.

The County Council provide hostel accommodation for aged, infirm and handicapped persons, but at present it is limited. Application for assistance should be made to the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham. Tel. No.: Durham 980, Extension 275.

Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided by the County Council, and any requests for a district nurse should be made to the nurses in the area or to the Superintendant of the County Nursing Association, 30, New Elvet, Durham. Tel.: Durham 837.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

(a). Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any Medical Practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Scheme.

(b). Immunisation against diphtheria may be carried out on application to Maternity and Child Welfare Centres or to any General Practitioner operating under the National Health Service Act, free of charge.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Names and addresses of the midwives available can be obtained from the Child Welfare Centres or Medical Practitioners.

Domestic Help.

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity, or other household emergencies. A charge for the service is made in accordance with income scales. Application should be made through the District Health Visitors or the County Medical Officer of Health, Shire Hall, Durham.

Health Visitors.

This service is maintained by the County Council, and the Health Visitor is the connecting link between the home and health activities of the County Council. Details of the Health Visitors available in the area may be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham. Tel. No.: Durham 980. Ext.: 264.

Ambulance Service.

Ambulance transport may be obtained on application to the nearest control, Telephone—Durham 587. Except in cases of emergency application should be made by Medical Practitioners, Hospitals, Midwives or Dentists. Ambulances can be booked in advance on the production of a certificate from a Medical Practitioner certifying the need for transport.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

Care Committees are in existence throughout the County to assist sick persons in any manner which may seem advisable, *e.g.*, the provision of extra nourishment, sick room requisites, etc. Advice can be obtained from the Secretary, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. A charge may be made for this service under certain circumstances according to income scale.

Mental Health Service.

A comprehensive scheme is provided by the County Council. Details and assistance can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham. Tel. No.: Durham 980, Extension 32, or to the Duly Authorised Officer. Tel.: Stockton 66911.

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

The County Council maintain Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at which ante-natal and post-natal clinics are also held, as shown in the following table. Advice can also be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, 42, Old Elvet, Durham. Tel. No.: Durham 980. Ext.: 262.

<i>Address of Centre.</i>	<i>Sessions.</i>
CHILTON. Red Cross Station.	Ante-natal Clinic— Alternate Wednesday Afternoons. Child Welfare— Alternate Wednesday mornings.
COXHOE. Social & Literary Institute and Village Hall. Telephone—344.	Ante-natal clinic— Tuesday mornings weekly Child Welfare— Alternate Thursdays. Birth control & Post Natal Clinics—Alternate Tuesday afternoons. Ultra Violet Ray— Tuesday afternoons and Friday afternoons weekly.
FERRYHILL. The Nursery, Dean Road	Ante-natal clinic— Friday afternoons weekly, alternate Friday mornings. Child welfare— Tuesdays weekly. Post-natal clinic— alternate Friday mornings Ultra-violet ray— Monday afternoons weekly Thursday afternoons weekly
FISHBURN. Miners' Welfare Hall.	Ante-natal clinic— Alternate Monday mornings. Child Welfare—Alternate Monday afternoons.
SEDGEFIELD. County Surveyor's Office. Telephone—244.	Ante-natal clinic & Child Welfare— Alternate Tuesdays.
TRIMDON. Back Peel Avenue, Trimdon Grange.	Ante-natal clinic— Alternate Thursdays. Child Welfare— Alternate Thursdays.

Maternity Homes and Hospitals.

These are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board, but applications for admission should be made to the Medical Officers at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres shown on the previous table.

Accommodation for unmarried mothers is available at Maternity Homes provided by the Regional Hospital Board, and the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association also maintain homes for unmarried mothers and babies. Application for admission should be made to the Medical Officers at the Child Welfare Centres.

Homeless children can be admitted to residential nurseries or cottage homes administered by the County Council of Durham.

Convalescent Home.

The E.F. Peile County Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge (Tel.: Shotley Bridge 27) is controlled by the County Council of Durham, and admits nursing mothers with their babies and children under five years of age. Applications for admission should be made at the Child Welfare Centres.

Services administered in your area by the Regional Hospital Board.

Hospitalisation of Infectious Disease Cases.

Infectious Disease cases from the Sedgefield Rural District are admitted to the Sedgefield Isolation Hospital.

General Hospital, Maternity and Sanatorium Accommodation.

Hospital and Maternity cases are admitted to the Sedgefield General Hospital and to Hardwick Hall Maternity Home, both hospitals being administered by the Sedgefield Hospital Management Committee.

There are no Sanatoria in your district.

Tuberculosis Dispensary (Barsfield Lane, Stockton).

Men (new cases) 9—11 a.m. Wednesdays.

Women and Children. 9—11 a.m. Thursdays.

Sedgefield Area cases only, men, women and children, Fridays 1-30 p.m. —4 p.m.

Venereal Disease Clinics. (Stockton and Thornaby Hospital).

Tuesday and Fridays, Men 5—7 p.m. and Women 2—5 p.m.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Your Council employ a part-time Medical Officer of Health, two full time Sanitary Inspectors and an assistant, together with clerical assistance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Housing.

During the year 128 new houses were completed by the Council and occupied. These comprise 106 traditional type houses and 22 aluminium two bedroom type prefabricated bungalows.

The situation of these 128 houses let during the year was as follows:

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>	<i>No. of Bungalows.</i>
Ferryhill	20	8
Sedgefield	14	—
Trimdon	44	14
West Cornforth	28	—
	—	—
	106	22

The number of private houses constructed and occupied in this district during 1949 was 11 as against 26 in 1948.

The following table shows the number of new houses, occupied since the termination of hostilities in 1945.

Year ending 31st Dec., 1945	<i>By local authority.</i>	<i>By private enterprise.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1946	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
1946	24	16	40
1947	62	23	85
1948	162	26	188
1949	128	11	139
Total to 31st Dec., 1949	376	76	452

Rebuilding was commenced on the site of Rogerson Street, West Cornforth, which was cleared in 1948.

Demolition of condemned property was carried out at Rose Street, Trimdon Grange, and the closing of condemned houses in Trimdon Colliery was undertaken.

House inspections were continued at Cornforth for the purpose of detailed classification of property and are nearing completion in this Parish.

On 1st January, 1949, the number of applications for Council Houses in this area was 1,521. There were in addition 250 applications for Aged Persons Bungalows giving a total of 1,772 applications. This number remained fairly constant over the whole year.

Drainage and Sewage.

The whole of your District is drained and sewered. The sewage disposal works consist for the most part of detritus and precipitation tanks with filter beds, together with land for final treatment. In other parts of your district precipitation and land irrigation are employed, whilst Bradbury and Mordon are drained with settling tanks only.

Table on page 21 shows particulars of Sewage Works within your district.

At Ferryhill Northside Sewage Disposal Works general improvements have been carried out including the re-laying of land drainage pipes.

At Cornforth the land used for irrigation purposes was relevelled and redrained.

At Mordon new settling tanks and filter outlet were installed, an extension to the sewerage system was carried out enabling the drainage of fourteen agricultural houses under construction to be effected.

In the remainder of the district general maintenance work was carried out during 1949.

Sanitary Conversions.

During 1949, 19 ash-closets, etc., were converted to the water carriage system.

The following table shows the total number of closets in the district at 31st December, 1949.

	<i>Water Closets.</i>	<i>Ash-closets & Privies.</i>
Ferryhill	3499	39
Chilton	1755	18
Trimdon	1242	258
Cornforth	1435	50
Bishop Middleham	380	37
Sedgefield (incl. Hospitals)	1158	52
Fishburn	639	29
Mainsforth	78	12
Remainder of district	186	250
including Aycliffe school		
	10372	745

In 1930 the number of ash-closets and privies in the area was 5,771, now the number has been reduced to 745. Of these remaining privies and ashclossets the majority are attached to houses that have been condemned, and to outlying farms.

Public Cleansing.

A fleet of seven Karrier Bantam and one Karrier CK 3 refuse vehicles are engaged in refuse collection.

In February, 1949, Mainsforth, Bishop Middleham, East Howle, and a portion of Trimdon Village refuse collections were transferred from contractors to direct labour.

The following shows the district that each of the above mentioned vehicles serve.

<i>Vehicle.</i>	<i>District.</i>
Karrier Bantam No. 1	Portion of Ferryhill and Chilton Lane.
Karrier Bantam No. 2 }	Remainder of Ferryhill not covered by
Karrier CK 3 No. 7 }	No. 1, and Dean Bank.
Karrier Bantam No. 3	Fishburn and Trimdon Village.
Karrier Bantam No. 4	Chilton Buildings, Windlestone portion of Woodham Parish, and Chilton Lane Council houses.
Karrier Bantam No. 5	Cornforth.
Karrier Bantam No. 6	Trimdon Grange & Trimdon Colliery.
Karrier Bantam No. 8	Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon, Stillington, Bishop Middleham and Mainsforth.

It can be seen from the above that the whole district is now served by full time properly constructed refuse vehicles.

Collections are made twice weekly from about seventy-five per cent of the houses in the district, the remainder receive attention once per week.

Refuse is disposed of on controlled tips. There are five disposal sites, all disused quarries, in the district. These are under the Council's control.

The work of refuse collection and disposal was carried out in a normal manner over the whole year.

Salvage Collections.

These collections are chiefly made at the same time as the refuse collections. The quantities of salvage sold during the year were as follows:

	<i>PAPER.</i>	<i>RAGS.</i>
Weight	87 tons 2 cwts.	2 tons, 5 cwts, 3 stones.
Value	£533-19-0d.	£26-19-3d.

PARTICULARS OF SEWAGE WORKS WITHIN THE SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

Approximate Population draining to Sewage system	Capacity of settling Tanks in Gals.	Capacity of filter beds in cubic yards	Capacity of humus Tanks in gals.	Sludge drying area in sq. yards	Dry weather flow in gals. per day.	Pumping Plant
Sedgefield ...	3,000	17,670	690	7,872	52,000	2—4" elect.
Fishburn ...	2,500	50,000	1,788	13,400	60,000	pumps capable of delivering 20,000 gals, per hr. each
Trimdon Village ...		900				
Trimdon Colliery ...		4,500				
Chilton Buildings		4,600				
West Cornforth ...		4,200				
Ferryhill (Southside) ...		5,400				
Ferryhill (Northside) ...		3,500				
Bishop Middleham		1,000				
Ferryhill and Chilton Joint ...		4,800				
			60,000	1,684	17,200	660
						96,000
						do.

Systems are all partially separate.

Pithead baths are additional.

**Summary of work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department
during the year 1949.**

(1) Public Health Acts.	Number of Informal Written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by Order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling houses :			
Foul conditions	3	—	3
Structural Defects	279	1	261
Overcrowding	4	—	4
Lodging houses	—	—	—
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops			
Bakehouses	3	—	3
Slaughterhouses	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	13	—	13
Deposits of Refuse and Manure			
Water Closets	72	—	69
Defective Yard Paving	6	—	5
House Drainage	121	—	120
Water Supply	3	—	3
Pigsties	3	—	3
Animals Improperly kept	—	—	—
Other Nuisances, etc.	24	—	22
Totals ...	557	1	532

Water Supplies.

The Ferryhill, Chilton, West Cornforth, Mainsforth, Trimdon, Fishburn, Bishop Middleham, Sedgefield and Bradbury Townships have their water supplied by the Durham County Water Board. Most outlying farms and cottages in these Townships obtain water from wells and springs.

With the exception of the outlying premises water is supplied to the Stillington Township by the Tees Valley Water Board.

Several houses at Sedgefield Station, in the Bradbury Parish, and Bishopton Crossing, part of which is in the Elstob Parish and the remainder in the Parish of Stillington, obtain their water from a piped supply which runs alongside the Sedgefield to Stillington railway line. The ownership of this pipe line was transferred from the London and North Eastern Railway Company to the Durham County Water Board in 1947.

A water main from Bradbury to Aycliffe provides a piped water supply to premises in certain parts of the Parish of Woodham. The remainder of the premises in the Parish of Woodham and the majority of those in the Windlestone Parish are supplied with water by meter from the Durham County Water Board through a privately owned pipe-line.

In the Village of Mordon there is a pump and well which is maintained by this authority. The remainder of Mordon Parish obtains water from privately owned wells.

Butterwick, Old Acres, Elstob, Preston-le-Skerne, Embleton, Foxton and Shotton obtain their water supplies chiefly from privately owned wells and springs.

During 1949 a water main was laid in Mordon between the water main running alongside the Sedgefield to Stillington Railway Line, referred to earlier in the report, and a building site in Mordon, where fourteen houses were in the course of construction, to provide water for these houses when they were completed. One farm house was also connected to this newly laid line. This farm previously depended upon a well for its supply.

A scheme was prepared by the Council under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1945, whereby Mordon Village and the majority of all outlying farms and premises in the area would be supplied with a piped water supply. Two deputations were held, one in January 1949 with Ministry of Health Officials, and one in October, 1949 with Ministry of Agriculture Officials. As a result approval was given to the scheme which is in two parts as follows :

Approved Proposal within the area of the Durham County Water Board.

Pipeline from Hare and Hounds to West House, Durham Road, (Fishburn Parish).
 „ Sedgefield to Beacon Hill Cottage.
 „ Sedgefield to Mess Bridge (near Brock's Farm, Sedgefield Parish).
 „ Sedgefield to Thorpe Larches.
 „ Sedgefield (Spring Lane) to Heley House.
 „ Eldon Lane Ends to Rushyford (Windlestone Parish).
 „ Fishburn to Three Horse Shoes and along Salters Lane.

Approved Proposal outside the area of the Durham County Water Board.

Pipeline from Beacon Hill Cottage to Wynyard Station, via. Waterloo Plantation.
 „ Mess Bridge (near Brock's Farm, Sedgefield Parish) to Waterloo Plantation, and joining the above-mentioned pipeline.
 „ Heley House (Sedgefield Parish) to Foxton and Shotton.
 „ Bradbury to Mordon & Mordon Village service pipes.
 „ Mordon to Elstob Cottage.
 „ Mordon Lodge (Bread & Beer House) to Hopper House.
 „ Mordon Southside to Stillington Crossing.
 „ Elstob Lane Ends to Elstob North Farm.
 „ Gretna Wedding Inn to Ricknall Lane Ends to Stainton Hill House.
 „ Ricknall Lane Ends to East Farm (Preston-le-Skerne Parish).
 „ Tees Valley water main near Old Stillington to Old Stillington.

It was estimated that the scheme would cost approximately £39,000 and a Government Grant of £18,000 was assured subject to adjustment pending final costs on completion of the scheme.

A long dry spell of weather during the summer brought the water level of the impounding reservoirs of the Water Board to a very low mark. However no cuts in the water supply occurred but it was necessary for public announcement to be made by the Board relative to the boiling of water supplied through their mains before consumption, until such times as the return of normal conditions enabled sufficient water to be available for its complete filtration and for the flushing of the mains.

This was verified by the results of a sample of water taken during this period.

The average rainfall returned to normal before the end of October and the water supply situation was eased as a result.

During this dry period several private wells became dry and water was lead by the occupiers affected.

The undermentioned table shows the number of houses in the various parishes where the water supply is obtained by water mains direct to the houses or by means of standpipes and also the estimated population so served.

Parish	No. of houses with pipe supply direct to houses	Estimated population obtaining water as aforesaid	No. of houses with stand-pipe supply	Estimated population deriving water from stand-pipe supplies
Bishop Middleham	336	1,210	—	—
Bradbury ...	43	160	8	30
Butterwick	—	—	—	—
Chilton ...	1,716	6,340	—	—
Cornforth ...	1,301	4,800	—	—
Elstob ...	6	22	—	—
Embleton ...	1	4	—	—
Ferryhill ...	2,981	11,000	—	—
Fishburn ...	637	2,370	2	6
Foxton and Shotton	—	—	—	—
Mainsforth ...	76	280	—	—
Preston-le-Skerne ...	2	8	—	—
Mordon ...	5	19	—	—
Sedgefield ...	648	2,390 (excluding patients of Winterton H.)	2	6
Stillington ...	43	163	—	—
Trimdon ...	1,151	4,250	110	406
Woodham (excluding Aycliffe Approved School ...)	38	140	—	—
Windlestone ...	32	118	6	22

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Since January, 1940, all slaughtering of animals intended for human consumption and for sale is carried out in premises occupied by the Ministry of Food. No such slaughterhouse exists in this district. The meat for this area is obtained from a centre in Stockton.

Tinned food, fish, etc., are dealt with in retail shops and canteens and the persons in charge co-operate very well in notifying the Sanitary Inspectors of any doubtful food-stuffs. These are then inspected and surrendered.

During the year 85 certificates were issued against 133 stones of food found to be unfit for human consumption.

Inspection of shops, canteens and food preparing premises was carried out.

Registration of 12 premises under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, was made during 1949. These were all for the retail sale of prepacked ice-cream.

Milk Supplies.

At the 1st January, 1949, there were 115 premises entered in the register under the Milk & Diaries Orders for milk production, and 55 persons registered as retail purveyors of milk.

Due to the coming into operation of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies Act, 1944) and the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, on the 1st October the registration of milk producing farms and milk producers and producer retailers, passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, leaving only the registration of distributors with local authorities. This amended the number of registrations to 29 distributors.

Considerable structural improvements were carried out at five milk producing premises during the period 1st January to 1st October, 1949, and one farm was added to the list of producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk. Good co-operation was maintained with the staff of the County Agricultural Executive Committee dealing with milk production.

The water supply of several farms is a point that requires attention, and the scheme, as submitted under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, when completed, will overcome this.

Designated Milk.

By the opening of the Milk Marketing Board's Plant in the latter part of 1948 a large quantity of pasteurised milk was made available for retail sale in this district.

The following shows the number of licences issued for the sale of designated milk during 1949.

Dealers' Licenses authorising the use of the Special Designation ' Pasteurised ' = 21,

Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation ' Tuberculin Tested ' = 12.

Dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation ' Sterilised ' = 5.

Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the designation ' Pasteurised ' = 2.

Rodent Control.

All sewers and sewage works received two rounds of maintenance treatment during the year and refuse tips were inspected and test baited every three months. Other 32 complaints of rats and mice were received from dwellinghouses, hostel, hospitals and schools, in each case surface treatment was carried out following investigations.

Sewers.

The total number of manholes inspected during the year was 2,728, of these 2,713 were treated, pre-bait takes 593, poison bait takes 352, estimated amount of poison bait taken was 419 ozs. Estimated number of rats destroyed 1,047.

Sewage Works.

Four hundred and sixty four test baits were laid at sewage works in your district and the number of takes was 434. Poison bait takes numbered 310, poison used 270 ozs., estimated kill 675 rats.

Refuse Tips.

Baiting points on tips numbered 347, pre-bait takes 299, poison bait takes 213, poison taken 180 ozs. estimated number of rats destroyed 450.

Surface Infestations.

In most cases surface infestations were found to be caused by defective drains and gullies and therefore block treatment was employed so as to include drains and sewers, complaints being chiefly from dwellinghouses and in all cases repairs to the drains were carried out immediately the treatment was completed. On these infestations 33 ozs. of poison bait were taken and the estimated number of rats destroyed 83.

The total quantity of poison bait taken and rats destroyed were as follows:—

	<i>Poison bait taken.</i>	<i>Rats destroyed.</i>
Sewers	419 ozs.	1047
Sewage Works	270 „	675
Refuse Tips	180 „	450
Surface Infestations	33 „	83
	—	—
	902 ozs.	2,255
	—	—

Factories Act, 1937.

Particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.
Part 1 of the Act.

Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occup'r's prosec'd (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	12	24	1	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	48	60	3	—	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	8	10	—	—	3
TOTAL ...		68	94	4	—	

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. In- specto (5)	By H.M. In- specto (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) ...	9	1	1	—	1	—	9
(a) Insufficient ...	9	1	1	—	1	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	1	1	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	1	1	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ...		3	3	—	1	—	

M. W. RODGERS, Medical Officer of Health.

